

TRAINING SELECTION - CANCELLED

Date: April 19, 2016 **UPDATED - CANCELLED**

Subject: S-244 Field Observer Selection Memo - **CANCELLED**

To: Local / Agency Training Representatives

*Due to low number of students, we are cancelling
S-244 on April 25-28, 2016
we may re-schedule in May, more to come.*

The following individuals have been selected to attend S-244 Field Observer hosted by the Boise National Forest with the training location at 1219 Banks-Lowman Road (Boise IHC Readiness/Training Building) in Garden Valley, Idaho. Training will begin at 1200 hours on Monday, April 25, and conclude by 1200 hours on Thursday, April 28, 2016.

BLM Boise District

Mike McGee cx 4/18/16

STF/Ketchum RD

Jonathon Golden cx 4/14/16

PAF/McCall RD

Will Woods

BOF/Cascade RD

Darcey Doyle

BOF/Mountain Home RD

Mike Elles
Will Hunt

BOF/Emmett RD

Beau Burley cx 4/14/16

BOF/Supervisor's Office

Taryn Robinson cx 4/14/16

There is required pre-course work, <http://onlinetraining.nwcg.gov/node/197> and students are required to complete and bring all items with them to the training session (see following page). Specifically, you need to understand the material in "Basic Land Navigation" and be proficient in the use of the GPS receiver you bring. You should know how to collect and document waypoints and routes, be able to download GPS data files acceptable to GIS and have cables or data transfer media to accomplish transfer to an agency standard laptop computer.

Equipment/Supplies:

- GPS receiver and cables or data transfer media
- Compass
- Drafting materials – pencils, ruler, protractor

- All weather clothing and footwear for field exercises

In addition, some current history: *The NWCG course S-244 (Field Observer/Fire Effects Monitor) was revised in 2007; the position taskbooks (PTB) for FOBS and FEMO were significantly changed and combined in 2009. S-244 is not scheduled for another revision, so the Fire Use Subcommittee of NWCG sponsored the development of supplemental lessons ("patches") to address knowledge required by the PTB but not covered in the existing S-244 course. The objective was to make the knowledge necessary for successful completion of the FOBS/FEMO taskbook readily available to instructors of S-244 as well as to currently qualified FOBS's and FEMO's who may want to acquire knowledge that was not originally covered in S-244 or the earlier position taskbooks. The additional materials are located at <https://www.frames.gov/partner-sites/wfmrda-ffe/training/nwcg-training-courses/> - videos of lectures and the Powerpoints are available at the bottom half of the page.*

This material is to be considered part of the pre-work – we will be briefly reviewing this material and taking questions from your review of this material.

The class is structured as a mixture of classroom lecture and field exercises. The final day will be a short written test followed by a fire scenario developed to simulate a fire assignment, collection of data and measurements, preparing data (including a map sketch) and debrief to a role player SITL.

Field exercises will take place rain or snow so bring appropriate clothing and protection for yourself and your equipment.

For those students travelling out of the area, there are a few places to consider in the Garden Valley area (in no particular order):

- Garden Valley Motel, <http://gardenvalleymotel.com/>
- Garden Mountain Bed & Breakfast, <http://www.gardenmountainbb.com/>
- Terrace Lakes Resort Motel, <http://www.terracelakes.com/-lodging-rates>
- Uncle Billy Bob's, <http://www.unclebillybobs.com/accommodations.html>
- Wander Inn Motel & Cabins, <http://www.hotelmotels.info/Idaho/GardenValley/WanderInnMotelCabins/>
- Walk on the Wild Side Bed & Breakfast, http://www.wildsidebb.com/about_the_bandb.html

All cancellations by selected nominees must be routed through the nominee's local training representative.

Questions regarding this course should be directed to the Lead Instructor, Doug Brown at (208) 259-3361 x7524 or dbrown@fs.fed.us.

S-244, Field Observer Pre-course work

The following pre-course work is mandatory:

1. Review the publication, **Basic Land Navigation** <http://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/products/pms475.pdf> , and be able to answer any questions similar to the exercises in class. **It is important for this pre-work to be completed**, as most of the S-244 course is based upon this content. If you need help completing these exercises, seek assistance at your home unit before the course date or contact the Lead Instructor Doug Brown. Bring any questions that develop from this pre-course work to the course. We can customize this course to spend more time in any topic.

The following materials are needed to complete the exercises (these same materials will also need to be brought to the course):

- Compass with adjustment for magnetic declination
 - Clinometer
 - Calculator
 - Engineer's ruler, protractor, dot grid, Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) grid reader may all be copied from *Basic Land Navigation*, Appendix C, but it is recommended to purchase and have sturdier aids in your FOBS kit.
2. Read the owner's manual for your Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver and have a basic understanding of how to use the receiver. You are expected to be familiar with the basic use of a GPS receiver. We can cover uploading and downloading information to "GARMIN" receivers. If you don't have a GPS email the instructor and he will bring some extra.

In addition to the aforementioned items, please bring the following items to the course:

- Basic Land Navigation (NFES 2865)
- Fireline Handbook (NFES 0065), including Appendix B (NFES 2165)
- Incident Response Pocket Guide (NFES 1077)
- **We will be in the field 1 or 2 days. Appropriate field clothes (warm clothes and boots, as we may be hiking in snow or rain)**
- GPS receiver and download cable (or call)
- Belt weather kit and or Kestrel
- Markers, pens, pencils
- Cruiser's vest or day pack for field exercise.